

Heritage Resources

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June 22, 2001

Ms. Kalla Hirschbein
County of San Diego
Department of Planning and Land Use
5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B
San Diego, CA 92123-1666

Reference: Vande Vegte Tentative Map (TM 5243) : cultural resource survey

Dear Ms. Hirschbein:

This letter describes the research and field survey performed for the Vande Vegte Tentative Map (TM 5243) property (Figures 1 and 2). These archaeological tasks are those outlined in the County letter dated February 21, 2001 and those required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Sections 21083.2 of the Statutes and 15064.5 of the Guidelines, and the County's Resource Protection Ordinance and Archaeological/Historical Report Procedures. Tasks included record searches, a review of historic maps and the 1928 aerial photograph of the property, and a field survey. The record searches identified no previously known prehistoric resources on the property and no prehistoric resources were discovered during the field survey. The historic research identified a farmstead that existed on the property for approximately 80 years but whose structures are now destroyed (house and carriage house) or completely remodeled (workshop). The field survey identified a modern house (rebuilt on the site of the burned circa 1920s house), workshop (remodeled out of the earlier workshop), and associated landscape on the northern portion of the property. The southern portion of the property consists of recently-disked open orchard lands with drainages on the east and west and, although a few remnants of agricultural and livestock uses were observed, no potentially significant historic archaeological deposits were identified. While visibility was poor in the immediate area of the existing house and workshop, the tentative map proposes no new improvements for this lot that might impact historical resources should they be present below the surface. Visibility was mostly excellent across the remainder of the property and no evidence of potentially significant historic resources was found. Based on these findings, no prehistoric or historic cultural resources will be impacted by the proposed Vande Vegte Tentative Map project and no further measures related to cultural resources are recommended.

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Natural and Cultural Background

The property lies along the gentle south-facing hillslopes just southeast of the community of Fallbrook. The area is dissected by well-watered drainages that flow into the San Luis Rey River valley to the south. The property is located on a gently sloping and wide finger above a drainage fork to the south. The eastern fork contains water, oaks, and some natural understory vegetation. The western fork crosses only the southwestern portion of the property and contains more exotic trees such as eucalyptus and pines. Beaver Creek Lane accesses the property from Alvarado Street on the north; and Reche Road lies to the south.

Geologically, the area appears to lie west of the Southern California Batholith as no bedrock was observed on the property or in the drainages. The soils are sandy loams, with no apparent large rock content, and appear ideal for agriculture. Although riparian vegetation occupies the drainages, the majority of the native terrain has been substantially altered by historic agricultural activities. Remnants of an orchard include citrus on the west central area and primarily olives on the southwest. Many of these trees have been invaded by scrub oaks and other natives. Other unidentified exotic trees are also sporadically present.

Record searches were completed at the San Diego State University-South Coastal Information Center and San Diego Museum of Man. Only three archaeological projects have taken place within a one-mile radius—one survey of the 28-acre property immediately to the south (Smith 1991) and two linear surveys through the area (Fink 1973 and Peak 1990). None of these discovered archaeological resources within a one-mile radius of the Vande Vegte property. One archaeological site, however, has been separately recorded nearly one mile to the northeast on Live Oak Park Road (Serr and Shackley 1989). SDI-11,465 consisted of two bedrock mortars and one basin on three boulders. The site was heavily disturbed by roadway construction and no artifacts were found. No other prehistoric cultural resources have been recorded within this one-mile radius, likely not only because of the lack of survey coverage but also because of the early agricultural development and disturbance of the area.

Historic maps (County Map 1872, U.S.G.S. San Luis Rey quadrangle 30-minute 1901 edition, Temecula quadrangle 15-minute 1942 edition, and Temecula and Bonsall quadrangles 7.5 minute 1948 editions) and the 1928 aerial photograph on file at the County of San Diego Cartographic Services Department were reviewed. By the turn of the twentieth century, a small community had developed in Fallbrook, a little over a mile to the northwest. Widespread roads accessed the agricultural areas to the east of Fallbrook proper and three residences existed in the immediate vicinity of the project property—to the northwest, southeast, and south. The residence, which previously existed on the Vande Vegte property, and its surrounding orchards appear on the 1928 aerial photograph and first appear on the 1948 Bonsall 7.5 minute quadrangle map. The complex was accessed by what is now Beaver Creek Lane and

appears to have consisted of a house and barn surrounded by landscape trees; the orchard appears less-developed than those surrounding the older houses in the vicinity. In recent years there still existed a house (a two-story redwood structure that had been modified over the years), a carriage house/garage adjacent on the north of the house, and a workshop to the south. Longtime Fallbrook resident Helen Green was born in the house. The house and probably the adjacent carriage house/garage burned in 1995 or 1996. The area was cleared and the existing house was built on the site. The workshop has been substantially remodeled to match the newly built house (Pat Harrison, personal communication 6/20/01).

In summary, the project property is within an area of Fallbrook that developed in agriculture by the turn of the twentieth century. The few archaeological surveys completed within a one-mile radius have discovered no sites. Only one archaeological site—highly disturbed—has been recorded within one mile. Although the presence of water, oaks, and gentle topography suggest the area was a likely location for prehistoric habitation, undoubtedly over a century of agricultural disturbance has destroyed most remnants. The Vande Vegte property was the site of an early homesite and orchard. Today, the only structural remains of this occupation are a remodeled workshop that retains no integrity.

Field Survey

The property was surveyed on June 17, 2001. The property consists of a gently sloping finger bounded by two drainages on east and west. Beaver Creek Lane ends in a cul-de-sac in the north central portion of the property. West and south of the cul-de-sac is orchard land that has been recently disked. Ground visibility was excellent. The soils are sandy and nearly devoid of rock. No prehistoric cultural materials were observed. Several citrus and olive trees are still alive but many have been invaded by scrub oaks and other natives. The drainage area on the east is a deeply-cut channel containing some water, surrounded by oaks and dense poison oak. No boulders, which might contain milling evidence, are present. Just southeast of the cul-de-sac and at the edge of the drainage trees, are several poultry houses, rotted lumber, cast iron pipes, a galvanized stand pipe, concrete pipe casing, and asphalt roofing paper. These are likely remains of the agricultural uses on the property that were moved under the trees for storage (one poultry house has a small oak growing through it, suggesting that it has been there for some time). The drainage on the west, has no water, is gently sloped, and has also been disked. At the extreme southwest corner several drainages join and there is another deeply cut channel. The majority of this is off the property. The southwest corner is planted in eucalyptus and pine trees with remnants of a recent tree house and tree swing. Along the southern boundary are the remains of a wellhead, pump, and cast iron pipes. This apparatus was supplied with electricity from the adjacent power pole and apparently supplied agricultural water.

The remaining parcel is the site of the existing house and workshop. This area has been graded on the east and southeast for the placement of Beaver Creek Lane and cul-de-sac. The area surrounding the house is landscaped and dense landscape species and eucalyptus are present to the west. There was little surface visibility in this area.

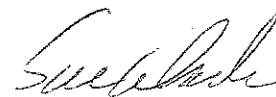
In summary, agricultural disturbance has occurred on nearly all areas of the property. Visibility across the agricultural areas was excellent and no potentially significant prehistoric or historic archaeological resources were found. The drainage areas have been disturbed; no bedrock outcrops were found that could have been prehistorically used for milling. The areas surrounding the house were also highly disturbed by construction after the fire and it is unlikely that historic archaeological artifact deposits, such as privy or trash pits, remain. As well, no improvements are proposed for this parcel and thus there would be no impacts if historic artifacts were present.

Conclusions

The research and field studies have demonstrated that no potentially significant cultural resources are located on the southern parcels of the property. No improvements are planned for the proposed parcel that once contained the historic farmhouse and where visibility was poor. Therefore, as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Sections 21083.2 of the statutes and 15064 of the Guidelines, and the County's Resource Protection Ordinance and Archaeological/Historical Report Procedures, there will be no impacts to cultural resources resulting from the proposed subdivision of the project property. No further measures related to cultural resources for the Vande Vegte Tentative Map (TM 5243) property are recommended.

I hope this letter provides you with the information needed to complete the cultural resources review for this project. Please call me if you have any questions regarding the work completed or our findings.

Sincerely,



Sue A. Wade

Archaeologist- Historian

cc: Steven and Dawn Vande Vegte
Patrick Harrison, Civil Engineer

References Cited

Fink, Gary

1973 The Archaeology of the Fallbrook Street Extension. Unpublished manuscript prepared by County of San Diego for San Diego County Engineering Department, on file at the San Diego State University-South Coastal Information Center.

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1990 Cultural Resources Assessment of AT&T's Proposed San Bernardino to San Diego County Fiber Optic Cable, San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego Counties, California. Unpublished manuscript prepared by Peak and Associates, Inc. for American Telephone and Telegraph Company, on file at the San Diego State University-South Coastal Information Center.

Serr, Carol and Steve Shackley

1989 Archaeological Resource Record Form for SDI-11,465 on file at the San Diego State University-South Coastal Information Center (SDSU-SCIC).

Smith, Brian

1991 An Archaeological Survey of the Reche Road Partnership Project. Unpublished manuscript prepared by Brian F. Smith and Associates for Pacific Rim Engineering, Inc. , on file at the San Diego State University-South Coastal Information Center.

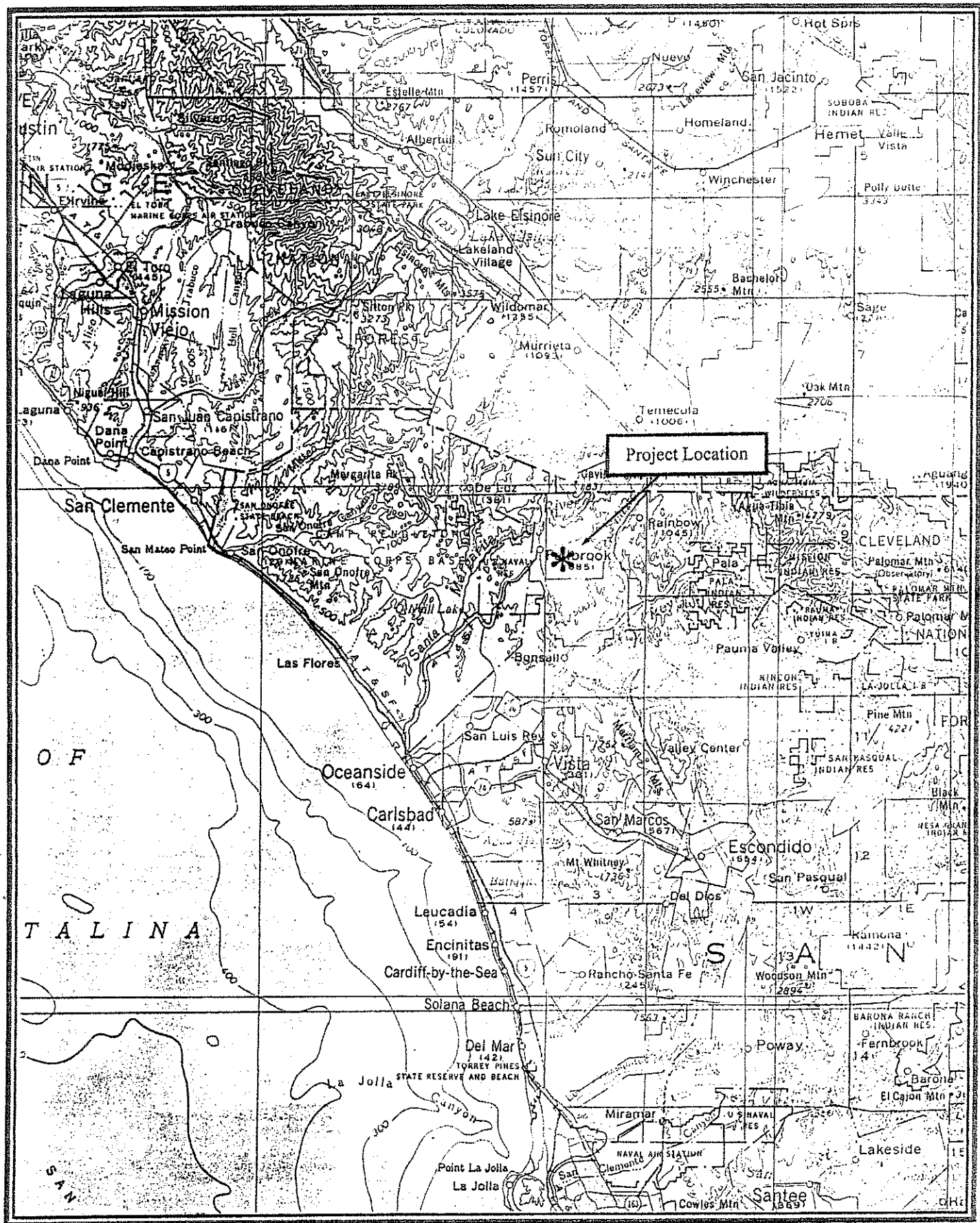


FIGURE 1: PROJECT LOCATION
CALIFORNIA (SOUTH HALF) U.S.G.S. STATE MAP

0 miles 8



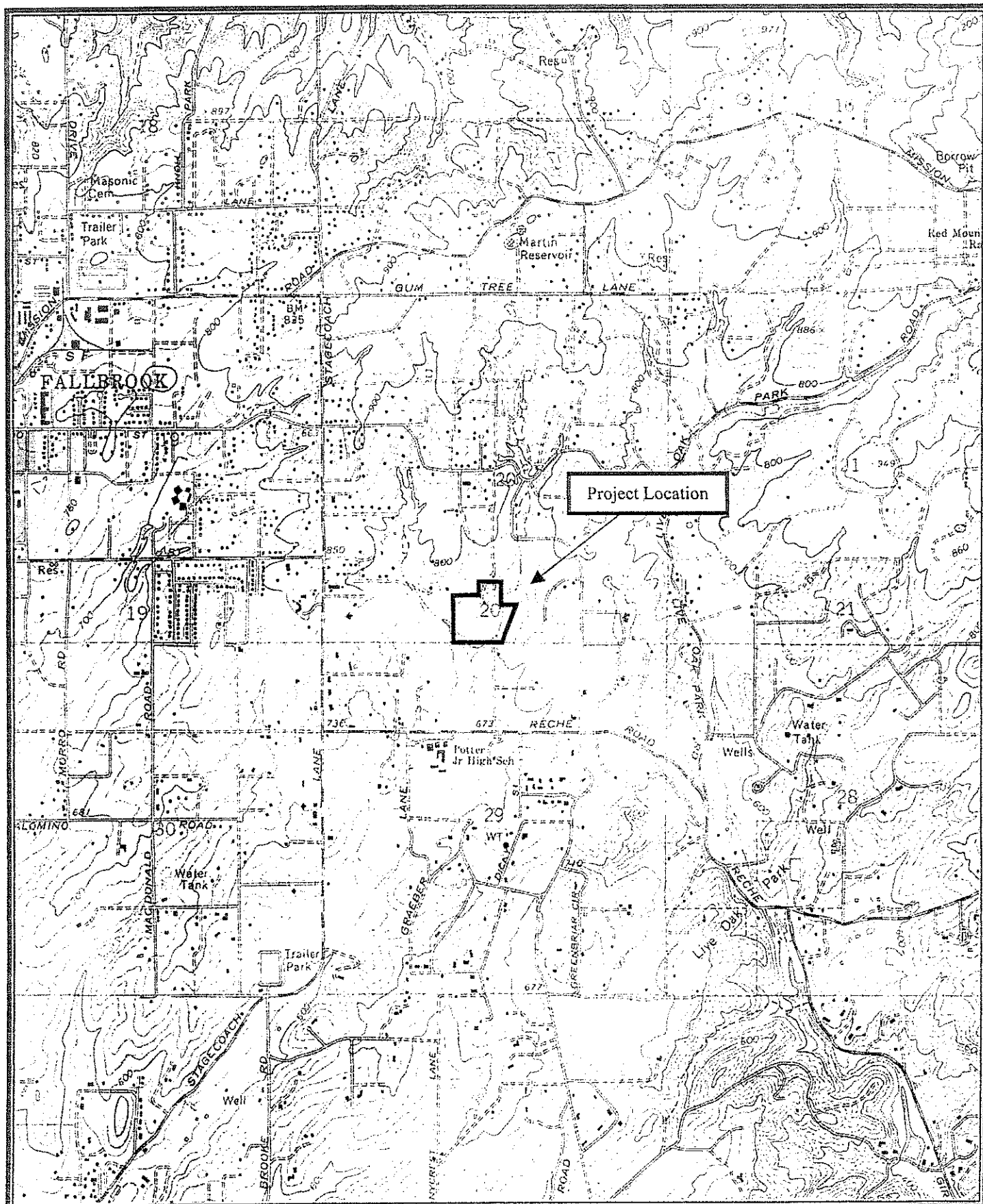


FIGURE 2: PROJECT LOCATION:
TEMECULA AND BONSTALL
U.S.G.S. 7.5-MINUTE MAPS

